THE ONE THING NEEDED.

BY THE REV. THOMAS MURPHY, D.D.

The one thing needed to give tone and success to our Sabbath Schools is to make the immediate conversion of the scholars their great object. This one great idea must be made to rise above all others. Everything clee must be brought to bear upon it. The mode of conducting the school, the study and traching of the lesson, the teacher's meeting, and the appointment of teachers should all be influenced by this ever-present motive. Innumerable devices have been tried to give efficacy to the Sablath School work, but all earnest and thoughtful friends of the cause are settling down upon thus conviction. At the present epoch, when the Sabbath School is crystalizing into what will probably be permanent forms, it is of immense importance that this idea should receive its pre-emment position.

The incuediate conversion of the scholars is the anu to be before the mind of the Superintendent every time he enters the school. His thought and prayer should be. "This is the thing to be aimed at this very day, and in all the exercises of this session of the school. Everything must now be done to bring these youths to Jesus."

When this object is nimed at, an influence of a most happy kind will pervade the school. What all feel to be needed in our schools is a more devotional spirit, and a deep r sense of the divine presence. The purpose of bringing the young to Jesus will inevitably give the air of sacredness. It will produce the feeling that all have met to transact business with God and souls. The idea of a school will then be lost in the far higher ideas of worship, of the mercy ceat, and of souls entering the kingdom.

Such a purpose must necessarily affect the teachers. It will keep ever before them the one great thing at which they are to aim. In studying and teaching, in managing their classes, and in their intercourse with each other, all their bearing will restriving for the salvation of their scholars.

Such teachers must be successful. The records of Sabbath School work are full of facts proving that this singleness of aim for the glory of God will not be in vain. A youthful teacher had an intense desire for the salvation of her scholars. They were a pecuharly wayward and trying class of boys. She prayed for them. She wept for them many a time. She strove for their conversion as nothing but patient Christian love would strive, and soon she was made to rejoice. One was most manifestly brought into the fold of Christ. Another was subdued and is inquiring. Others still are attentive. Other blessed results are still confidently expected.

Settle this one object of the school, and it will cut short the whole question as to who should be teachers. The heart to strive for the conversion of the young, is the first and great qualification. It is indispensable. Whoever has it, and is capable of explaining the way to Christ, should teach. Whoever has it not should not be placed in that deeply momentous position. The teacher who cares not for the salvation of the scholars has no business in the Sabbath School.

The scholars, too, will feel the influence of this great aim wherever it pervades any school. It will not long lie hidden from them. The carnest purpose, where it reigns, will soon affect them. They may be reckless, and aim to appear more so than they really are, but something will soon reach their hearts and make an impression that they cannot shake off. The will be easily managed, in fact it will need no managing. Quietly its minuter will glide away, and all will feel that they have been in a sacred Presence. This is the true method of securing order.

This, moreover, will attract scholars to the school and keep them there. Exhibitions and shows of various kinds have been abundantly tried, and their results have been but spasmodic. The motive we now urge will not be temporary in its offects. The school where this great object reigns, will, in the long run, prove the prosperous school, even in outward growth and pormanence.

Then it is a practicable thing to seek for the immediate salvation of the young. Why should they not be brought to Christ now? What qualification of hearter head necessary to conversion is not theirs now? Cases innumerable of the conversion of the young warrant us in striving for it with all diligence. Where is there a church in which some such instances cannot be found? Tens of thousands of the most devoted Chru lans were brought into the kingdom when they were young.

A few weeks ago a Teacher's meeting of this city had assembled. It had been determined to lay aside all other business and spend the hour in devotional exercises. Unexpectedly to the Superintendent there came from one of the teachers a written request that prayer should be offered for two of her scholars who seemed awakened; then another similar request for a whole class, and another, and another, and another. Six teachers of the school were found struggling for the souls of their scholars with some hope that there were movements of repentance secu. Such a state of things was not anticipated by any one. May there not be a similar unseen interest in other schools? Should there not be in all schools and at all times? The children can be saved. Faithful institu-tion and prayer will lead them to salvation, Never was there planting mere sure of a speedy harvest than there might be here.

And now, while they are young, is the most hopeful time to look for the convermost hopeful time to look for the conversion of the scholars. It is, humanly speaking, the period when the probability of their being saved is the greatest. There is the greatest hope for them now. The records of all churches will undoubtedly show that the greater part of all who are ever converting that blood shows have the ed experience that blessed change before they are twenty years old. This makes these first twenty years of life very selemin. these first twenty years of the very superson these troops of this feather's house into another. Those who see youth passing through these that is fair and large, lightsome and them. The human probability is, that if them. The human probability is, that if Clarke. they are ever saved it will be now.

Oh, superintendents, teachers, what a call is this for you to be in carnest! What awful interests are at stake! How can you seck for the dear youth committed to you anything short of their immediate conversion? Let this be the key-note of your work. Let it give tone and impression o all that you do. Let it be the reigning idea in everything you undertake for the advan-cement of this cause. Never be satisfied with anything less or lower than the immediate conversion of your scholars .- Presbyterian at Work.

## PILGRIM STANDFAST.

A stanneh old pilgrim he was as ever set out for the celestial city. No persecutions nor any allurements of pleasure could turn hun aside from the right way. Such a pilgrim was sturdy John Knox, who, when the lords of Queen Mary's court bade him stop his preaching, giving him but one alternative—"silence or the gallows,"—would make answer: my lords, you are mistaken if you think you can intimidate me by threats to do what conscience and God tell me I never shall do. Be it known to you that it is a matter of no importance to me, when I have finished my work, whether my bones shall bleach in the winds of heaven or rot in the bosom of the earth.'

The same Steadfast blood beat strong in the heart of the martyr Hooper, when he went with a firm step to the fatal stake. "I am come hither to end this life," he said, ,' because I will not gainsay the truth I have formerly taught you." And when a pardon from the Queen was set before him he cried out with a determined voice, " If you love my soul, take it away, take it away!" The price of that pardon, he well knew, must be a denial of that faith. So Bishop Latimer, when summoned before the bloody Mary," said, "I go as willingly to London, to give an account of my faith, as ever I went to any place in my life." As he rode through Santa and through life." As he rode through Smithfield—that spot which had such a baptism of martyrs' blood-he said "Smithfield has groaned for me a long time."

Perhaps it is quite as hard for Standfast to preserve his integrity smid the temptations and pleasures of the world as in the fires of persocution. Where persecution has slain its thousands, worldness has slain its

of high degree, the argument would not have influenced you.

A tract is a little thing. Itseffect to lead to the truth you believe in. You are urged to distribute them, and yet you satisfy your conscience by leaving them on car seats for chance readers, or throw them from a window in the hope it may be found and read, So often a vain hope. Not thinking that the spirit of love with which you tender it, and the request from living has to read it. is better than all the nucertainties which mark its flying progress.

It is so much the little things which make our lives, the little acts which form our influence, the smiles the tears which prove our hearts, and win the hearts of others to ourselves and our God. One warm hand shake, one look of love is worth volumes of theology to a perisning sinner. Then be faithful to little impulses, be obedient to the gentlest teachings of God, and some line of history will have a fuller, richer meaning. Angels will write your name blessed in leading some souls in a right path, whose foot-steps but for you had been turned away from God-away from happiness--away from heaven.

Mistrust the man who finds everything good, the man who fluds everything evil overything.

It is better for a zen to be an advanced oyster than a degraded god; for in the former case the path is upward, in the latter it is downward.

Death to a good many is but passing through a dark outry out of the little dusky room of his Eather's house into another HELP AT THE RIGHT TIME-A TALK ABOUT PROVIDENCE.

"I wish to know whether there are in these days any providential interventions or not," said a young man of inquiring, yet doubting, mind to his pastor.

"What evidence would you desire?" reeponded the pastor.

" That of facts."

"You know the Bible furnishes many such facte.'

" True, but those belong to another age, and chiefly to a peculiar people. Are there correct facts which establish the destrine of a present special providence?

" Many," "I beg you to give two or three of them '

"I will do so cheerfully. In the city of Buffalo, during one of the soverest winters of the last fifteen years, a widowed mother, enteebled by disease, with a child of two summers, one night lay shivering in an upper room of a delapidated tenoment building. The husband and father had perished in the wreck of a propeller a few weeks before in a torrible gale upon the adjacent lake, and with him were lost the household goods and the money saved from the sale of a humble home in the West. The news of wreck and loss was terrible to the stricken woman, who had journeyed to Buffalo by the cars and was waiting at the hotel the arrival of her husband. What followed need not be told at longth. The humblest quarters were sought as a temporary shelter Sickness followed bereavement. The last penny was soon spent, and, under the pressure of want, the con-tents of a well filled trunk were carried to the pawnbroker. Even the trunk itself han been exchanged for fuel, which was soon exhausted. And now, on the severe winter night which I have mentioned, the poor woman had nothing loft but the scantiest of wardrobes, a pallet of straw, a single blanket, and the precious child which was sleeping in her arms. It was indeed a case of extremest destitution and of gloomiost in a distant part of the same city lay united saldionic

distinctly the presence of God, who so exactly knew what we needed, and bestowed it upon us at the very moment when we required it." Our German friend added in his letter that he remembered that about three months before, when he was carrying the book from the bookseller's shop to his house, he met a friend by the way who owed him money, and as both hands were holding the books, no asked him to put the money in the uppormost book, which he did.'

"So the falling out of the money was

quito natural ?" "It was so, indeed; but that it should romain in the book for so long a time, and then fall out at just the moment when needed to relieve the distress of the poor weaver, as well as that of the poor German and his wife, was a proceedental incident, the remembrance of which still cheers the heart of the recipients."

"O. I remember now the piece of taxmoney found by command of our Saviour in the fish's mouth."

"Exactly: but here is another instance: A friend of mine, in a town not a thousand mile from Brooklyn, who had long been an official member of the church and a generous contributor in all the collections for its support, was suddenly impoverished by a sad business calamity! In the embarrass ment which followed he yielded to the mistaken notion that he was now poor, he would be excused from giving the smallest sum for the support of the Gospel His embarrassment mercased, and his days were those of gloomy forebodings and sorrow. He became sorely tempted. give anything for the support of the church, said he one day to his paster and I must, therefore, stay away; you must accept my resignation as its leader. His paster ex postulated with him, but in vain. Give a little, said the pastor, 'to every collection; it will not harm you; no one is the fair for giving for Gospel purposes, have passed and my friend's seat in the charge ontinued vacant, and his financial tradition at home increased rather than dinfuished. One day, the faithful, right-minded paster, while raising a subscription for the paster. of a parsonage, went to him and requested a pledge for a small amount. The appeal overwhelmed him with a freshighest the aruggle in his sensitive soul het gen less than the sensitive sensit sensitive sensitive sensitive sensitive sensitive sensitive sen desire to be a man' in giving and his apparent inability was fearful. This paids pressed him for his own good. (1300) said he, and God will pless you with the means to give. Trust him for once; he will not fail you. I will venture is pice! responded my friend, as he burst hate a tit of toars. The pastor left with a subscriptly of ten dollars for the new parsongue. Again evening, as my friend was passing bond ward, thinking over the new trust which he had ventured, he found a ten-dollar ful of the adowalke. In spite of his effects to the there might be some connection letters ins subscription and the newly-discovered bil. The money was duly advertised, but no owner could be found. In dusting it of the most affluent, generous, harry, and useful men in his whole region of country.." country...'

usually and strangely wakeful upon Hardonium.

A poor woman in India, who had embrace and an indiagnostic terminal that is a poor control in the poor. An extraordinary in pression and anony which had been aken from the poor. An extraordinary in pression and anony which had been aken from the poor. An extraordinary in pression and anony which had been aken from the poor. An extraordinary in pression and anony which had been aken from the poor. An extraordinary in pression and anony which had been aken from the poor. An extraordinary in pression and anony which had been aken from the poor. An extraordinary in pression and pression are depth of the poor. An extraordinary in pression and pression are depth of the poor. An extraordinary in pression and pression are depth of the poor. An extraordinary in pression and pression are deeply affected in the poor. An extraordinary in pression and the pression are deeply affected in the pression and the pression and the pression are deeply affected in the pression and the p

the history by the lighter personal memoir.
Take the brilliant, chivalrous, headlong Prince Rupert of history, and compare hun with the Prince Rupert of Popys! The broad outlines are the same, but only from the gossip's pages do we come to understand what the real man was like. The ordinary Frenchman's idea of Henry of Navarre, the ordinary Englishman's idea of Queon Eliz aboth, are for good or evil utterly unlike the real beings, and would vanish on the reading of a few chapters of genuine contomporary description. Mr. Carlyle has invent ed a Mirabeau whom most English readers now have agreed to adopt with unquestioning faith, but which really belongs to the realms of fancy as strictly as Othello or Macbeth. Yet there are sources enough, if they were properly sought, from which a very accurate notion might be obtained o-the real humane, undramatic Mirabeau. Mario Antoinette and Josephine Benuliarnais are two figures which may be studied in every accurate lineament by those who will take the trouble, but which, as popularly represented and accepted, are pure myths. The Swift of Macaulay and Thackcorrything that comes from signand except its coals, as a proof of Switts-narrow-minded-bitternes, without opening Swifts own pages to see what he really did say, and in what circumstances, In dealing with living porsonages, the public judgment is peculiarly apt to go astrayfrom lack of the guidance of minute personal descriptions. Public opinion in England for example, annused itself for years by creating an imaginary louis Vapoleon and limitles.

Me opinion of certain hostile circles in Park the opinion of ceream most certain in a correct a figuraria self the time creating in score a figurariously compounded of Vitellius, Mophy in the control of the country of gar the chromasuscent will give to c postority the true Louis Napoleon, and p able them to understand, as not many of can pretend to do, his rise and fall .- I ond Daily News.

## VALUE OF SCIENTIFIC STUDY.

Professor Jenkin, of Edinburgh United nity, on recently assuming the duties of the Chair of Engineering, founded by the let ir David Baxter, made an admirable at deess to his class on the above subject, from which we take the following .

The originality which suggests novel co tarprises the common sense which judges 200 soundness of an undertaking—the et porience which specifies the quality of man insterial required, and the manner in which old well known details are to be carried at the business habits and sagnetty which no owner could be found. In dusting it indide men in the superintendence of work want to cancel the parsonage subscripted bind workmen—the clear head which under faithfulness in christian duties, of generods and which can write a document having a though numble giving, and of trust is tiple definite meaning—still more the glonous from that date he began to practice the still the faithfulness and with that practice his son and which can write a document having a definite meaning—still more the glonous cordingly, and with that practice his son are discovered as it were, a new thing, and gives por a prosperity returned. He is now put allows—of the most adjunct, can avon a hard put and proved the most adjunct, can avon a hard put and proved the most adjunct, can avon a hard put and p gaide men in the superintendence of work these qualities or faculties are all useful to the singincer in the highest degree, and neither country...

"But you do not think the Lord meetal ald self-made, unscientific engineers pout the ten-dollar bill for his benealt and self-made, unscientific engineers pout the ten-dollar bill for his benealt and self-made, unscientific engineers pout the ten-dollar bill for his benealt ald self-made, unscientific engineers pout the ten-dollar bill promise to pay the bill contained. It has a substitute the self-made are. Unscientific unscientific ten promise to pay the bill contained. It has a substitute the promise to pay the bill contained. It has a substitute the promise to pay the bill contained. It has a substitute the promise to pay the bill contained. It has a substitute the promise to pay the bill contained. It has a substitute the promise to pay the bill the promise to pay the promise the promise to pay the promise to pay the promise to pay the promise to pay the promi nor my colleagues can give them. The of extremest destitution and of gloomiest in I could mention scores of others, some sense suners no wrong at the hand of known prospect. 'O God,' cried the poor stricker iff them much more striking, but two leases experience is not weakened by the one, 'thou hast permitted all this for hy kneighly for me to report them now. They poor a calculation; education does not good—it must be so. I will bear it all knows thoroughly attested, and there is no constructed for a knowledge of the world. But my habe! O my poor suffering child! doubt of their reality.

At that very hour a Christian lady of wealth of their reality.

At that very hour a Christian lady of wealth of their reality.

At that very hour a Christian lady of wealth of their reality. ra | fruincountless disappointments by obtain-

may form of us. We are so learful of this personal condemnation.

A ragged child falls and hurts herself, cries. Your impulse is topick her up, wipe away her tears, and send her on her way rejoicing with the apple or bit of candy in your pocket. But a second thought—ah! these second thoughts—mit these second thoughts—mit these second thoughts—mit these second thoughts—crommed you that some one sees, and you will come into public notice, and an inherent modesty, so called, provents the charitable deed; if the out of it, and fell rattling—mon the tablog of high degree, the argument would not the presence of God, who so exited history by the lighter present man thus what we needed, and that, perhaps, the badit three will fill three where the weaver from he badit three will three where the weaver from he badit three will three where the weaver from he badit three will three where the wint three where the might provent the weaver from he badit three will three where the wint three sections as the first three will three where we were the way in the same relation at best to the badit three will three hays the rame fare, but something different the nast day, and so on. In this way the business is simplified to the utmost; the looks amount of labor is required; there is mornantalofolood, prepared for all supposrolle midios, and left uncalled for. At sup-pay our midow may supply horself with bread suid putter, a slice or two of cold most, a tart of the like at a very lightsome oxpensor flowl beer may be had almost id: halling is large glass of lager, much larger than allose we use, for a cent and a third. So his lives respectably, in clean, well-kept foods; has no fire in the kitchen Well-app fords; has no fire in the kitchen lost weak-bedjoys much lessure each day, and page for all but a bit of money. Now, in our bedged Boston, she would have much more work to do, though employing a servant constantly; and besides, her mash "rodilethot pay the servant's wages. History be observed, too, that she is not banjabed to come obscure, disagreeable part of the town, but lives in a hundsome street, elevated and airy, among the healthiest and pleurabilit in the whole city. " " His this kind of thing which renders Carman of distation possible. The fact is not marrie high the art of household econ-

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only is a sent stadied, but no one is left to practice it storie; the whole community is one with thinks to render housekeeping

In dealing with inving personages, the public judgment is peculiarly apt to go astrayfrom lack of the guidance of intimate personal description. Public opinion in England for a cample, amused itself for years by creating an imaginary Louis Napoleon—a. celd, stern, inscrutable being of profound sugacity, and limitless foresight. On the other hand, lar within the color of any travelant limitless foresight.